of binding to the α_4 subunit of VLA-4, in an amount effective to treat diabetes.

(Amended) A method according to claim [11] 10.

wherein the soluble VCAM-1 polypeptide[s] comprise a VCAM-IgG fusion.

313. (Amended) A method according to claim [11] 106, wherein the composition is administered in an amount effective to provide a plasma level of a soluble VCAM-1 polypeptide(s) in the mammal of at least 10-20 μ g/ml over a period of 1-14 days.

wherein the composition is administered at a dosage so as to provide from about 0.1 to about 10 mg/kg of antibody or [antibody fragment] an antiqen binding fragment of said antibody, based on the weight of the susceptible mammal.

(Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the composition is administered in an amount effective to [coat] block VLA-4 antiqen on VLA-4 positive cells in the peripheral blood for a period of 1-14 days.

wherein the composition comprises an antibody or an antiquen binding fragment of [such] said antibody capable of binding to the α_* subunit of VLA-4.